

male, and hence this combined call sounds like *kateela kateela kateela*.

Apart from the above calls there is also a very sharp and high-pitched alarm call which sounds like *tirrr tirrr tirrr* repeated quickly when partridges are flushed by a bird of prey or any animal. When danger is suspected, *chirrr . . . chirrr . . . chirrr* is repeatedly uttered at intervals of between two to eight seconds. This short alarm call is usually continued to be sounded by the birds until they are satisfied that the danger, whether real or imaginary, has passed. When partridges have young chicks with them the above calls are uttered more often. As soon as the parents sound the alarm notes the young ones rush for cover, and they remain quite still until called out by the parent birds with a soft *kunva kunva kunva* which is answered by the shrill *ti ti ti . . . ti ti ti* of the chicks, audible at some distance. These calls of the parent birds are repeated, and the little ones also continue with their tiny calls until the whole family is re-united. Young males sometimes make their first attempt to call when they are between three to eight weeks old.

BHUJ,

KUTCH,

September 28, 1959.

M. K. HIMMATSINHJI

#### 9. THE OCCURRENCE OF THE WHITENECKED STORK [*CICONIA EPISCOPA* (BODDAERT)] IN THE KASHMIR VALLEY

Early in the morning of May 15 1959, when I was walking along the Dal Lake in Srinagar, a solitary Whitenecked Stork was observed opposite to Oberoi Palace Hotel (altitude about 5200 ft.).

The occurrence of the Whitenecked Stork in the Valleys is noteworthy since it marks an extension of its distributional as well as as altitudinal range. THE BOOK OF INDIAN BIRDS mentions that it occurs up to an altitude of 3000 ft. above sea-level. Osmaston (Notes on the Birds of Kashmir, 1927, *JBNHS* 32) does not record it, neither do Bates & Lowther in their THE BREEDING BIRDS OF KASHMIR.

174, KASBA PETH,

POONA 2,

October 20, 1959.

V. C. AMBEDKAR

[The Whitenecked Stork occurs in the Salt Range area of the Punjab and has once been recorded in Sind. As far as we are aware, the above is the first published record for Kashmir.—Eds.]